

Labor Resources for St. Stephen, South Carolina

Executive Summary

This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of St. Stephen, South Carolina. St. Stephen is located in Berkeley County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of St. Stephen.

Labor Situation at a Glance in St. Stephen, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	55,832	123,964	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	24,087	53,161	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	1,595	3,749	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	6.6%	6.9%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	251	636	22,196
Average Wages	Berkeley County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$623	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for St. Stephen, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	24,087	53,161	2,046,179
Change since 2000	-499	-998	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	55,832	123,964	4,198,068
Change since 2000	4,930	12,216	186,056
Projected 2010	82,691	195,437	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	28,245	62,436	2,040,261
Female	27,586	61,528	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	12,712	27,710	875,330
Ages 35-49	12,436	27,284	925,330
Ages 50-64	9,102	20,643	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	28,768	63,153	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	18,875	41,521	778,054
Some College	13,330	28,714	500,194
Associate Degree	4,067	8,842	173,428
Bachelors Degree	5,826	13,087	351,526
Post Bachelor	2,519	5,804	178,529

**Prime working age group:*
People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

Employment Characteristics for St. Stephen, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	22,492	49,413	1,906,571

Total Employment data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Berkeley County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	26	107	12,379
Mining	38	83	1,603
Utilities	113	221	11,891
Construction	1,594	3,674	111,730
Manufacturing	3,723	8,873	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	39	136	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	171	385	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	650	1,278	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	187	544	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	111	323	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing		10	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	49	137	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	561	1,294	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	17	43	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	34	96	7,846
Food manufacturing	16	38	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	5	13	1,445
Textile mills	223	677	40,207
Textile product mills			9,724
Apparel manufacturing	4	23	5,321
Paper manufacturing			14,710
Printing and related support activities	31	89	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	611	1,305	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	37	104	23,054
Wholesale Trade	888	2,198	62,523
Retail Trade	2,549	6,328	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	675	1,464	46,941
Education and Health Services	2,261	6,311	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	1,891	4,964	192,748
Professional and Business Services	1,383	3,620	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Berkeley County, SC

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
SPAWAR Systems	N. Charleston	Navy communications systems	2200	1994
Nucor Steel	Huger	Rolled steel, sheets ,coils	847	1997
Bayer Corp	Goose Creek	Dyestuffs, pigments, colorants	739	1970
Blackbaud	Charleston	Computer software	719	1989
Jacobs Applied Technology	Goose Creek	Chemical process systems	700	1998
Alcoa-Mt Pleasant	Goose Creek	Primary aluminum	650	1980
Williams Technologies	Summerville	Remanufacture transmissions	550	1979
Mikasa Inc	Charleston	Household products	502	1997
CR Bard Inc	Moncks Corner	Foley catheter	462	1977
JW Aluminum	Goose Creek	Aluminum foil	450	1980
Norton McNaughton Apparel	Goose Creek	Women's apparel distribution	431	
Gates Rubber Co	Moncks Corner	Timing belts, rubber	285	1975
Quoizel	Goose Creek	Lighting products	285	1998
Piggly Wiggly	Summerville	Grocery food distribution	273	1998
DAK Americas	Moncks Corner	Polyester resin	251	2001
Albany International	St Stephen	Finishing plant	232	1956
Agfa Corporation	Goose Creek	X-ray film	212	1992
Bellwright Industries Inc	Summerville	CNC Machining	200	1977
BP Chemical Co	Wando	Purified terephthalic acid	192	1977
Georgia-Pacific Corp	St Stephen	Particleboard	151	1971

Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

Availability of Labor

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	24,087	53,161	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	-499	-998	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	43%	43%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	1,595	3,749	139,607
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.9%	6.8%

The *labor force participation* rate is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

Unemployment reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	251	636	22,196
Manufacturing	234	602	19,196
Distribution	14	27	1,213
Service	3	7	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	13,094	27,609	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their resident are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Berkeley County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	273
Data Processing Technology	87
Engineering Technologies (Total)	203
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	20
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	6
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	145
Industrial Electronics	*
HVAC	27
Precision Production (Total)	91
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	56

Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Berkeley County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$623	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$32,374	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

** Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Berkeley County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$52,990	\$39,027
Wood product	***	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	\$40,758	\$39,031
Primary metal	\$64,892	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	***	\$37,533
Machinery	\$31,623	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	***	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	\$36,507	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$21,948	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	***	\$34,350
Food	\$20,563	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	***	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$18,107	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	\$66,101	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	***	\$46,620

***Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

Occupational Wages In St. Stephen and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Berkeley Area			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	*	*	*
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$8.23	\$9.96	\$10.94
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	*	*	*
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	\$8.90	\$10.80	\$12.20
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	\$8.82	\$10.54	\$11.87
Logging Equipment Operators	\$9.43	\$11.17	\$12.95
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$11.02	\$15.26	\$18.69
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$9.92	\$11.79	\$13.27
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	*	*	*
Machinists	\$11.10	\$13.71	\$16.33
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	*	*	*
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$10.17	\$11.46	\$12.96
Sewing Machine Operators	*	*	*
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	*	*	*
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.11	\$16.03	\$19.55
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$11.99	\$13.79	\$15.84
Woodworking Machine Setters	*	*	*
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Berkeley Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	\$52,640	\$66,540	\$79,900
Computer Programmers	\$31,940	\$40,440	\$47,660
Engineers, NEC	\$36,420	\$55,340	\$69,440
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$28,340	\$41,220	\$53,020
Industrial Engineers	\$52,060	\$60,400	\$68,920
Mechanical Engineers	\$36,340	\$45,420	\$55,800

Source: *Occupational Wage Survey*, SC Employment Security Commission

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available